

VZCZCXRO5517
RR RUEHAG RUEHBW RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH RUEHROV RUEHTRO
DE RUEHMO #1256 1261441
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 051441Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7921
INFO RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
RUEHXD/MOSCOW POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON 0050
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0422

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 001256

SIPDIS

EAP/MLS AARON COPE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/04/2018

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [BM](#)

SUBJECT: BURMA REFERENDUM DEMARCHE DELIVERED: MFA DECLARES
RAMBO IV PARTIALLY ACCURATE

REF: STATE 45471

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Alice G. Wells for reasons
1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) On May 5 we delivered reftel demarche to MFA Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand Desk Second Secretary Alexey Semenikhin, who told us the GOR believed the proposed Burmese constitution was a positive step on the road to democracy. Semenikhin argued that, while some violent episodes "similar to those in Rambo IV" may have taken place in border regions, the GOB was not oppressive, but rather effective in bringing progress to the people of Burma. The GOR, he said, favored a "wait and see" approach to the upcoming referendum, and did not think the UNSC should be a global election monitor.
BURNS